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a step to implant a third zone in the active zone, adjacent to the first zone that separates it from the second zone, to obtain a third zone with strong doping according to the second conductivity type.

20. (New) Method according to claim 19, wherein the first zone is wider than the grid formed on the first zone.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please delete the original Abstract page 22 in its entirety and insert therefor:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device for the protection of an electronic component against electrostatic discharges. The device is made in a semiconducting layer of a substrate. The semiconducting layer covers an insulating layer. The device is connected to a contact pin to protect the electric component in order to divert an electrostatic discharge. The device includes at least one Zener diode connected to the pin to be directly polarized.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice. By the present Preliminary Amendment original claims 1-10 are canceled and new claims 11-20 are presented for examination. New claims 11-20 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including original claims 1-9, and thus are not deemed to present any issues of new matter. A

new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under United States practice is also submitted herein.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

--Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claims 11-20 (New) .--

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please delete the original Abstract page 22 in its entirety and insert therefor:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[The invention relates to] A device [(25)] for the protection of an electronic component against electrostatic [discharges,] discharges. [the] The device [(25) being] is made in a semiconducting layer of a [substrate,] substrate. [the] The semiconducting layer [covering] covers an insulating [layer,] layer. [the] The device [being] is connected to a contact pin [(21 to 24)] to protect the [said] component in order to divert an electrostatic [discharge, characterized in that the] discharge. The device [(25) comprises] includes at least one Zener diode connected to the [said] pin to be directly polarized.

[Fig. 4]